



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ron J. Vandergeest et al.
Serial No.: 09/747,770
Filing Date: December 22, 2000
Confirmation No.: 4395

Examiner: Thomas M. Ho
Art Group: 2134
Docket No.: 0500.0008171
Our File No.: 10500.00.8171

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING USER AUTHENTICATION

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Christine A. Wright
Christine A. Wright

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AFTER FINAL RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed September 7, 2005, Applicants submit the following remarks.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverse and request reconsideration.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the notice that claims 27-31 are allowed.

Claims 1-4 and 6-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) under Crane et al. Crane has been cited as teaching all of the claim limitations of, for example, claim 1, but the office action admits that Crane fails to disclose, returning the authentication code to the authentication unit. The office action admits that Crane discloses that merely a simple yes or no is returned that is digitally signed. However, the office action states that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to send the returned authentication code instead of the yes/no answer. However, such a modification to Crane would cause Crane to